

## United States Patent and Trademark Office

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE-United States Patent and Trademark Office Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450 www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/973,576	10/09/2001	Christopher D. Noble	38421-234372	6026
826	7590 09/17/2004		EXAMINER	
ALSTON & BIRD LLP			DAVIS, CASSANDRA HOPE	
	MERICA PLAZA	ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER	
	101 SOUTH TRYON STREET, SUITE 4000 CHARLOTTE, NC 28280-4000			

DATE MAILED: 09/17/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.



FILING DATE

## UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

## U.S. Patent and Trademark Office Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450



CONTROL NO.		PATENT IN REEXAMINATION		
09/942, 8	571			
09/973,576			EXAMINER	
			ART UNIT	PAPER
				1
			DATE MAILED	<b>:</b>

FIRST NAMED INVENTOR /

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

## **Commissioner for Patents**

ATTORNEY DOCKET NO

1. The information disclosure statement (IDS) submitted on February 28, 2003 was filed before the mailing date of the Non Final Rejection on October 23, 2003. The submission is in compliance with the provisions of 37 CFR 1.97. Accordingly, the information disclosure statement is being considered by the examiner.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Cassandra Davis whose telephone number is 703-308-2223. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday 8:00-4:30. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Lesley Morris can be reached on 703-308-0629. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Cassandra Davis Primary Examiner

Art Unit: 3611

APPLICATION NO /